

**WALDO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT SESSION
(SPECIAL SESSION)
DECEMBER 29, 2009**

PRESENT: Commissioners Donald P. Berry, Sr. (Chairman), Amy R. Fowler and William D. Shorey with County Clerk Barbara Arseneau to take minutes.

Commissioner Berry opened the court session at 9:00 a.m.

UPDATED PROQA PROPOSALS FOR WCRCC:

Present with the Commissioners was Technology Consultant James Arseneau to discuss the recent adjustment in Spillman's proposal for the ProQA software. J. Arseneau apologized for requesting time with the Commissioners that necessitated a meeting.

He explained that the State decided last year to go to Q&A software. This software cues a dispatcher step by step in asking and answering questions during a medical-related call for service. Currently it involves two screens being used at the same time. In the centers where there is CAD software, there is a "bottle-neck" effect if the Q&A is not completed in order.

J. Arseneau explained that the quote from Spillman in April was about \$30,000.00 for five dispatching positions. The County applied for a grant that was not awarded. He contacted Spillman last week and Spillman came back with a quote of \$24,823.00 with five years maintenance included. This budget request figure had not been requested in the 2010 budget in order to apply for the grant. J. Arseneau reflected that the Commissioners had previously discussed funding this from the Technology Reserve in the event that the grant did not come through.

B. Shorey thought that there was some money available in other departments. He did not know if there was any money in the Communication Center budget but thought there might be. D. Berry noted that there might some money left in the Facilities budget and A. Fowler suggested that there might be funds in the Sheriff's Office, which she felt would be appropriate since they would also benefit from this software by extension.

J. Arseneau noted that the mandated software was \$6,000.00 per position, originally and the County also was able to negotiate a better price along with obtaining a license for the fifth dispatch position at no additional cost. The Commissioners felt this system was important and that they wanted efficiency so that people would not die while someone was trying to get all the paperwork correct.

****W. Shorey moved, A. Fowler seconded moving forward with the Spillman package at \$24,843.00. Unanimous.** W. Shorey suggested that Commissioner Berry and B. Arseneau work together to find funding for this from various appropriate budget lines.

2. When the EOC discussion occurred and there were questions about back up capabilities, the back up system was reviewed. J. Arseneau stated that if District Court burned, new hardware would have to be ordered and the back up tape would be used to reload the information, which would take at least a week to do. NDS has a service that backs up all data to Falmouth. Wherever there is a connection, for \$1,800.00 the accounting system could be run by two simultaneous users from that location the next day. The Treasurer pays maintenance as it is and J. Arseneau recommended that this

be done. K. Trussell, who was present for this discussion, noted that the Treasurer's Capital line has \$1,159.00 in it at this point.

J. Arseneau explained that currently all Windows "stuff" goes through the Probate system to the Communications Center. There will need to be a \$5,000.00 system put in place that serves as redundancy in the event that there was a disaster at the Communications Center. J. Arseneau recommended taking it out of the Technology Reserve if there weren't enough funds. The Commissioners decided to take the \$1,159.00 from the Treasurer's 1025-7000 and the remainder from Professional Services Line in the Commissioners budget.

****A. Fowler moved, W. Shorey seconded signing the service contract with Northern Data Systems for \$1,800.00 to back up the Treasurer's Accounting system and provide another option to access the system during a disaster. Unanimous.**

2010 HEALTH INSURANCE RENEWAL UPDATE:

Present for this update was Human Resources/Payroll Director Michelle Wadsworth and County Clerk Barbara Arseneau. B. Arseneau referred to the memo drafted by Health Insurance Plan Administrator Malcolm Ulmer and asked the Commissioners to consider the third to the last paragraph for discussion. It was noted that only four employees are still on the First Health Network. The Commissioners decided to alter that paragraph so it would not be confusing and instructed M. Wadsworth to send out a separate memo to the four employees still on First Health notifying them that likely in 2011 the Health Insurance Plan will be eliminating the First Health network and the County will use only the GreatWest network. The Commissioners felt that this notice for those employees would be helpful in allowing time to locate doctors in-network or to at least be prepared to pay more out-of-pocket to continue to see doctors out-of-network.

The Commissioners asked if there were any new enrollments at this point and M. Wadsworth responded that there were none yet.

As far as wellness programs were concerned, the Commissioners did not feel that the plan could afford to support any programs at this point and acknowledged that most employees who are committed to improving their health through exercise, etc. were doing that regardless of any wellness programs.

The Commissioners noted that Malcolm Ulmer is researching possible enhancements to the existing plan and that these would be internal and cost-related. After additional discussion, the Commissioners agreed that they would have another meeting in early January if costs requiring discussion and/or decisions related to enhancements were submitted to them by Malcolm Ulmer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

**** A. Fowler moved, W. Shorey seconded to approve the minutes from the April 23, 2009, May 5, 2009, November 10, 2009 and November 20, 2009 Waldo County Commissioners Court Sessions. Unanimous.**

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Waldo County General Hospital is hosting a meeting with the Waldo County Legislative Delegation and the Waldo County Commissioners on Friday, January 15, 2010 at 8:00 a.m. with a snow date of January 22nd. The meeting will be held in the hospital classroom and

breakfast will be served. The purpose of the meeting is to share the hospital's efforts to increase quality and value for their patients; their Care Partners program, which increases access to appropriate care for the uninsured; and the efficiencies WCGH has achieved since joining MaineHealth. It was noted in the invitation that WCGH was one of only three rural hospitals nationwide to earn the Leapfrog organization's Top Hospital award. Commissioner Berry apologized that he could not attend, as he will be away. Commissioners Fowler and Shorey will attend. B. Arseneau is to respond on their behalf.

2. B. Arseneau informed the Commissioners that Deputy County Clerk Veronica Stover had recommended paying the 2010 copier maintenance in the amount of \$480.00 (part of which is paid from the Treasurer's budget as a shared cost) from the Commissioners Equipment Services line from the 2009 budget, as that line has not been drained as much this year and is the line that this maintenance contract is paid from anyway. B. Arseneau asked for authorization to pay this invoice from 2009 funds if, after the next warrant is run, funds were still available. The Commissioners authorized this payment under those circumstances.
3. The following pay step increases were noted by the Waldo County Commissioners:
 - Sgt. James Porter will have reached the twenty-year step on January 1, 2010 with a pay increase from \$22.21 per hour to \$22.83.
 - Deputy County Clerk Veronica Stover will have reached the 6-year pay step on the pay scale effective January 1, 2010 with a pay increase to \$31,791.00.
4. Year end work: The Commissioners authorized closing the Commissioners and Treasurer's Offices January 7, 8, 21, and 22, 2010 to perform 2009 year-end/2010 year-beginning work.
5. The Commissioners Court Session in February will not be held the 9th, as Commissioner Shorey will be away. The Court Session has been changed to February 16, 2009.
6. EMA Director Dale Rowley had submitted via Email the Pre-Design budget estimates for the proposed new EMA Building and Sheriff's Office Building. B. Arseneau wondered who would be responsible for providing figures for those items marked "TBD" (to be determined.) Commissioner Shorey felt that WBRC would be working with the County on those at a later date.
7. B. Arseneau referenced an Email from Cumberland County Manager Peter Crichton which was requesting viewpoints of County Administrators, Managers and Clerks to formulate a MACCAM Association stand on LD 1280 regarding the New Unified Corrections System and P. Crichton's Draft Response to Guest Editorial by Irv Faunce . B. Arseneau asked that the Commissioners offer their views on this, as P. Crichton needs input on Jail. A. Fowler gave brief history on this topic and explained that she and P. Crichton have met with Senate Republic leaders, etc. Waldo County is in a unique position as being the only county that serves as a 72-hour hold re-entry facility and is actually sending money back into the system. "The State is making money on us," she noted. Her opinion was that even if the "One Maine, One System" failed, Waldo County's facility could still "make it." She commented on the daily inmate boarding rate of \$23 dollars a day and commented that if the Two Bridges Correctional Facility or other Jails "fell apart" then this would impact Waldo County. She commented that \$7.1 million was needed and that "we'll be lucky if we get \$3.5 million." She

added that during discussions and talks with the governor a lot of counties that should be worried were not there and they should have been.

W. Shorey noted that Waldo County had “ponied up \$100,000.00 to convert our Jail” and “they need to credit us for this.”

A. Fowler expressed concern about agencies running on stimulus money, which she described as a “recipe for disaster.” She explained that she didn’t think there was enough money for Tim Leet to do a study. D. Berry commented, “That’s the State’s problem.”

The Commissioners told B. Arseneau that Waldo County’s response is that Waldo County itself “has no problem.” Commissioner Shorey shared his feeling that Waldo County is really a well run County.

8. Signing of TAN note.
9. Head Cook Linda Paul’s Surprise Retirement party: W. Shorey said he planned to attend and A. Fowler said she would definitely be attending and will present the Commissioners’ retirement gift. It will be an open house from 2:30 – 4:30.
10. B. Arseneau informed the Commissioners that in January, with their authorization, something would need to be done about the extremely dry air in the Waldo County Archive. She expressed concern that even in the summer months, the humidity level barely and only occasionally gets up where it needs to be. A humidifier will alleviate documents drying out and aging faster. The Commissioners agreed to address this and suggested that it be funded from the Facilities Management budget.


****D. Berry moved, A. Fowler seconded entering Executive Session for a Union/Personnel at 10:33 a.m. Unanimous.**

****A. Fowler moved, D. Berry seconded exiting Executive Session at 10:57 a.m. Unanimous.**

FUTURE COURT SESSIONS:

The next County Commissioners court session is scheduled on January 12, 2010 and the February meeting has been changed from the 8th to the 16th as Commissioner Shorey will not be available.

****D. Berry moved, A. Fowler, W. Shorey seconded adjourning the meeting at 11:00 a.m. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted by 
Waldo County Clerk